

if they were either to kill them or rob them of their young; for he takes a pleasure in hearing their innocent songs, and very willingly indulges them to take part of his fruit, for the sweet music with which they are continually entertaining him. I dare say, therefore, that if young *Dick Climb-away* was to go a bird-nesting there, and venture his clothes and his neck, as he and many other naughty boys do, in England, he would have him soundly whipped, or, perhaps, throw him into the sea. Such then is this happy island, which is called the *Seat of Education*: a name that was given it, because the people of condition in the other fortunate isles send their children hither to be educated: for giant *Instruction*, who is himself a very learned man, keeps a number of tutors and under masters to be employed for this purpose, among which number was your very humble servant, *Don Stephano Bunyano*, notwithstanding my office of secretary. But wherefore did I say *people of condition*? For here even the poorest boy may have admit-

admittance, if he is but a good one, and can pass through the forms of examination, which shall be hereafter mentioned: but if he happens to be a naughty boy, and brings a bad character from home, he would not be admitted upon any account, though he were dressed as fine as hands could make him,—nay, though he were the son of a prince or an emperor. For as to the idle wicked children who neglect their books, or disobey their parents, the good giant cannot bear to look upon them.

I call him the *good* giant, because he really is so. For though he is absolute governor of the whole island, and might do as he pleases, yet he believes that no man can be so great, or so rich and powerful, as to have any right to excuse himself from his duty. Some little boys, indeed, because they are gentlemens' sons, and are finely dressed, and eat and drink, as we say, of the best of every thing, are silly enough to think that they may do all manner of wickedness and mischief. But these are very stupid and very naughty children; and